(b) whether it is also a fact that precious foreign exchange can also be saved by way of these technologies, once developed as products, as import substitutes, and if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) A number of technologies developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (1SRO) have already been transferred to Indian Industry and are being manufactured by the industry, to meet the demands of various agencies and organisations, besides ISRO's own requirements for its satslites and launch vehicle programmes. In adition, ISRO also provides technical consultancy support to Indian Industry to upgrade their technologies. The Indian industry work very closely with SRO, both for ISRO's purposes as well as their own needs.

Prosecution of Doctors under C.E.A.

@4042-A. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Indian Medical Association have objected to the cases of doctors being prosecuted and fined by District/State Consumer Councils under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986; and

(b) if so, what are the objections and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government has received a representation from the Indian Medical Association wherein they have raised the following objections regarding applicability of Consumer Protection Act to the medical profession ;

(i) that medical profession can not be equated with any trade/selling commodity.

(ii) medical profession comes under 'contract for personal services' under section 2(1) (0) of the Act and therefore, exempted from the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

©Previously Unstarred Question 3556, transferred from the 25th March, 1922.

(iii) There is specific agency namely Medical Council of India and State Medical Council which have Statutory powers to award punishment for alledged misconduct and negligence against medical professionals.

All the services which are hired for a consideration are covered under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission in a judgement has held that contract of personal services stems from master-servant relationship. The relation between a patient and the professional doctors does not come within that category. Further Consumer Protection Act, only provides for additional remedy to the consumers for the redressal of their grievances against services which are hired for a consideration. It is for the consumer to decide the forum where he wants to seek redress

Reservation for SC/ST in Public Sector undertakings

@@4042-B SHRI KARMA TOPDEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reservation for SC/ST in recruitments of posts would remain applicable in all the public sector undertakings after privatisation under Government's liberal policy;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to implement the same;

(c) whether any amendment, is] proposed to be made accordingly in the statute; and

(d) if not, what is Government's attitude towards safeguarding the interest of SC/ST regarding this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a)to(d) No change is contemplated in the existing policy of reservation for SCs/STs in Public Sector Enterprises.

Right to Work

@@@4042-C SHRIB.K. HARIPRASAD Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether right to work and employment guarantee schemes have been droped by Government as Reported in the Economic Times of 19th February, 1992 due to financial and other constraints; and

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@@Previously Unstarred Question 4357 transferred from the 27th March, 1992.

@@@Previoasly Unstarred Question J421 transferred from the 24th March, 1992.

(b) if not, whether in the first place such schemes will be made applicable to certain categories of women only ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) Given the resources constraint, such a measure can not be taken up at present.

Charges Against Emigration Staff

£4042-D SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Graft charges against too emi gration staff" which appeared in 'Times of India' (Bombay) dated the 20th Fe bruary, 1992;

(b) if so, the number of officers found guilty by the CBI; and

(c) what action is being taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cases of alleged acceptance of illegal gratification against four officials of the office of the Protector of Emigrants, Bombay have been registered by the CBI, Bombay. The matter is being investigated by the CBI. Appropriate action will be taken against the concerned person(s) on receipt of the report from the CBI.

Cases of Fluorosis

££4042-E SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat which have been affected by Fluorosis; and

(b) what preventive measures Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOP MENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAIH. PATEL): (a) As per the earlier survey, 1079 villages in Andhra Pradesh and 1113 villages in Gujarat were affected with excess flouride in drinking water. However, all States/Union Territories have been advised to conduct a fresh survey of quality of drinking water. The result of this survey are likely to become available by end of September, 1992.

(b) Alternative safe drinking water sources are made available in the affected villages. Installation of 30 fill and draw and 269 handpumps attached deflu-pridation plants in Andhra Pradesh and 11 defiuoridation plants in Gujarat were also approved. 20 fill & draw and 111 handpump attached defiuoridation plants in Andhra Pradesh and four in Gujarat have been installed so far. The State Government of Gujarat has forwarded a-project estimated to cost Rs. 60.50 crores for 172 villages in Mehsana district. This project is under consideration of the Cen* tral Government.

मध्य प्रदेश के डाकू ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में सड़कें

£££4042-च. श्री कैलाश नारायण सारंग: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को क्रमश: वर्ष 1984 और 1985 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के डाकूग्रस्त जिलों को डाकुओं से मुक्त करने संबंधी योजना के अंतर्गत प्रथम चरण में 14 सड़कों और दूसरे चरण में 61 सड़कों का निर्माण किये जाने का कोई प्राक्कलन सरकार के अनुमोदनार्थ प्राप्त हुये हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इन सभी सड़कों के निर्माण के लिये वित्तीय स्वीकृति दे दी है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इन्हें कब तक स्वीकृति दे दी जायेगी ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री उत्तमभाई एच० पटेल): (क) से (ग) दस्युग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में सड़कों के निर्माण की योजना के अंतर्गत मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की परियोजना रिपोर्ट

£Previously Unstarred Question 3592, transferred from the 25th March, 1992.

££Previously Unstarred Question 3560, transferred from the 25th March, 1992.

£££Previously Unstarred Question 3 712, transferred from the 25th March, 1992.